International standard training facility for athletes

1427. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide an international standard training facility to athletes in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to set up a centre with such facilities in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) to (c) The Government of India, under its infrastructure schemes of (i) Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure (ii) Grant to Rural Schools for purchase of Sports Equipment and Development of Playground (100% grant) (iii) Promotion of Sports in Universities and Colleges (iv) Installation of Synthetic Playing Surfaces, provides, assistance to State/UT Governments, Institutions etc. for creation of sports infrastructure facilities and purchase of sports equipment on sharing basis.

"Sports" being a State subject, promotion of sports is the responsibility of the respective States. However, Sports Authority of India (SAI) has provided international standard training facilities in its centres at Bangalore, Delhi and Patiala. SAI, as a part of on-going process is also upgrading its training infrastructure facilities in its centres.

In addition, under the Government of India's Scheme related to Talent Search and Training, coaches, sports scientists and technical staff are sent abroad for advanced training and skill upgradation. Moreover, Government also assists engagement of reputed foreign coaches for imparting training in different disciplines.

Doping cases

1428. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware of the growing tendency of doping among Indian athletes; and

(b) how many cases have come to light yet and what action has been taken?